CARDINAL RAMPOLLA, SECRETARY OF STATE TO LEO XIII.

The cable dispatches from Europe on two occasions last week contained assertions to the effect that Cardinal Rampolla del Tindaro was on the eve of resigning his post of Secretary of State, and it was likewise intimated that his probable successor would be Cardinal Calimberti. It is, however, unlikely that there is any serious foundation for the news, or that it is based on anything else than that gossip which abounds in a city where there are so many people who have absolutely no aim in life and nothing to do. It would be difficult to find any- ciliation between the German Government and thing more improbable than the withdrawal or dismissal from office of Cardinal Rampolla and those who possess any knowledge of Vatican affairs and Papal politics are convinced that his Secretaryship of State will come to a close only with the death of Leo XIII. For all the most glorious incidents of the latter's reign are indissolubly connected with the name of this youthful prince of the Church, and there is

most conspicuous manner in the pages of history, is the spectacle of Leo XIII acting as arbitrator in a purely mundane conpresent Emperor does not resemble his father. troversy between a Fower that has always been regarded as the principal stronghold of Catholicism and a Power that occupies an analogous position with regard to the Protestant Church. the venerable head of the Catholic Church with The Pope was invited to assume this role, not a brusquerie and discourtesy that shocked every by His Most Catholic Majesty the King of one, no matter to what creed he belonged. It Spain, but by the Lutheran Emperor William was rudeness that would have been considered and his Chancellor, Prince Bismarck. The idea of the Holy Father sitting in judgment with these two great Powers at his feet awaiting his these two great Powers at his feet awaiting his the holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father, was discreditable to the last denoted by the Holy Father was discredita decision has been one calculated to raise the prestige of the Papacy to a height unknown in modern times, and has served more than anything else to demonstrate that, in spite of the loss of temporal sovereignty, the Holy See during the pontificate of Leo XIII has lost nothing of its incalculable influence over the temporal affairs not only of Catholic, but also of Protestant, nations. CARDINAL RAMPOLLA'S DIPLOMACY.

Father is mainly indebted for being requested to act as arbitrator in the conflict between Ger. many and Spain on the subject of the possession of the Caroline Islands. Contrary to general belief, the idea originated with Cardinal Rampolla, at that time Nuncio at Madrid, and not with Prince Bismarck, as has been asserted. Realizing, like Premier Canovas, to whom he first broached the subject, that it would be preferable for the invitation to come from Berlin instead of from the Spanish Government, the Nuncio availed nimself of the close friendship which he had contracted a year previously with the German Crown Prince on the occasion of the latter's visit to Madrid quietly to intimate through him to Prince Bismarck that were Emperor William to appeal to the Pope to act as arbitrator in the controversy, King Alfonso and his Ministers would gladly abide by the decision of His Holiness. Prince Bismarck, abo

Now, it is to Cardinal Rampolla that the Holy

way of propitiating the Vatican, the support of which he needed in the Reichstag, in which it controlled at the time nearly a hundred votes. So without hesitation he acceded to the proposition, and the invitation for the Pope's arbitration reached Rome in due course from Berlin, the Pontiff not learning till afterward the part played by Cardinal Rampolla in securing for him what still appears to be the greatest tribute paid to the Holy See in the present century. The Cardinal is one of the few Italian members

with his political experience, at once perceived

the advantages of the project and the benefits

to be derived therefrom for Germany, in the

Formerly nobles predominated among these ways represented among the wearers of the red hats. It was regarded as a duty by the heads of these families to devote at least one of their sons | tent of cloping with the wife of his chief, the Amto the Church. But the wave of democracy that has swept over the entire civilized world in the latter half of the nineteenth century has not been without its influence upon Catholicism, which, after all, is not only an ecclesiastical, but likewise a popular institution; and to-day it is the sons of the people, rather than those of the nobility, who constitute an overwhelming majority in that supreme council appointed by the Pontiff to assist him in the administration of the spiritual affairs of the Catholic world. Like his principal rival and foe, Signor Crispi, the Marquis Rampolla del Tindaro is a Sicilian, although his manner, his bearing, and, above all, his taciturnity, would convey the impression that he hailed from the northern portion of the Italian peninsula. MORE SPANIARD THAN SICILIAN.

Indeed, there is little of the volubility, the restlessness and effusiveness of the Sicilian in this tall, grave, ascetic-looking man of stately mien and noble speech, who shows clearly the influence of many years passed among the Castilian hidalgos at the court of Spain. In every respect he presents a direct contrast to his predecessor. the fat and jolly little Cardinal Jacobini. With out wishing to say anything disrespectful of the latter, one could almost have written of him as Lord Rockingham did of King Charles II of England, "whose word no man relied on"; but the little Cardinal had such a delightful, goodhumored and kindly way about him that it was simply impossible to be offended by the frequent breaches of faith which he seemed to consider indispensable to the conduct of the diplomatic affairs of the Vatican. With Cardinal Rampolla, however, f. is known that his word can absolutely be reited upon-but he seldom gives it-and no one wer better deserved the strange title of "the Grand Silencer," which was in olden times used to lesignate the Secretary of State of the Byzantine Emperors and, later on, of the early Popes, than His Eminence Cardinal Rampolla.

Educated at the College of Ecclesiastical Nobles and at the Collegium Romanum, in the Eternal City, he was from the outset of his career devoted to the diplomatic service of the Papacy, his first appointment after his graduation from college being that of secretary and auditor to the Embassy at Madrid, and on the recall of the Nuncio, Monsignor (subsequently Cardinal) Simeoni he became Chargé d'Affaires. When, on the death of Cardinal Antonelli, Pius IX nominated Cardinal Simeoni to the Secretaryship of State, Monsignor Rampolla was promoted, fist of all, to the post of Secretary of the Oriental Department of the Propaganda Fidel, and later on to that of Secretary of Extraordinary Eccisiastical Affairs, where he obtained a remarkable insight into the relations of the Vatican with Gemany. After the accession of Leo XIII to the Papal throne, he was sent as Papal Nuncio to Midrid, where the services which he rendered to the present dynasty were of simply incalcurble value, especially when the sudden death of Hng oth Alphonso placed his widow, who could scarely speak the Spanish language at the time, in a situation of so much difficulty and danger.

Indeed, throughout his stay at Madrid h may be said to have acted as one of the principal supports of the throne, his influence, sagaciously exercised, being preponderant; for the Spaniards are a deeply religious race, no matter to what political party they may belong.

I'm big enough to ride it now."

South biggles for the others, and I ought to have her in the properties of the others and I ought to have her in the properties of the other in the family?" It was entirely owing to his intervention that on the death of the King the Conservative Prime Minister, Canovas, although in the pos-

GRAND SILENCER." session of a parliamentary majority, voluntarily | TINY PLACES OF WORSHIP. resigned his office into the hands of his Liberal opponent, Senor Sagasta, with the patriotic object of strengthening the tottering Regency object of strengthening the tottering Regency and of causing the Liberals to become the guardians of the throne, instead of joining the Republicans, as they at first thought of doing. And if to-day the clergy of Spain have ceased to act as agents of the Carlist Pietender, and as the principal supporters of his cause; if, in one word, the Church in Spain has become thoroughly loyal to the reigning dynasty, it is entirely due to Cardinal Rampolla.

A POLICY OF RECONCILIATION.

Nor do these constitute the sum total of the successes which he achieved while at Madrid. For it was while acting as Nuncio there that he began the policy that ultimately led to a reconthe Papacy, and to the termination of that conflict which is known in contemporary history as the Kulturkampf. It was on the occasion of a the Kuittikanija. It was on the occasion of a visit of Emperor Frederick, at that time Crown Prince, to the late King Alphonso. "Unser Fritz" had made all als arrangements to return direct-ly from Madrid to Germany, by way of Bar-celona, Genoa and the St. Gothard. But, as the result of several long and confidential conversa-tions with the Nuncio, to whom he seemed to take a great fancy, he changed his itinerary at youthful prince of the Church, and there is certainly no member of the Sacred College who more closely reflects the political ideas of the venerable Pontiff, who understands him more completely, and who more loyally, unreservedly and obediently seconds His Holiness.

To Catholics, as well as to people of other religious denominations throughout the civilized world, the most remarkable incident of the present pontificate thus far, and the one which is calculated to figure in the most conspicuous manner in the pages of

YOUNG WILLIAM'S INDISCRETION.

Young William, it may be remembered, on the occasion of his arst visit to the Vatican treated gree, and was certainly not atoned for when, on the occasion of another visit a few years later, he took leave of the venerable Pope with the, under the circumstances, astounding words, "Que Dieu vous bénisse" (God bless you'), words "Que Dieu vous bénisse" (God bless you'), words probably uttered inadvertently and in a moment of effusiveness, but which put the equanimity of all present to a severe trial. For can anything more comical be imagined than the idea of young William imparting his benediction to the aged Pontiff, instead of bowing his head to receive the same at the hands of the ruler of the Catholic Church? the Catholic Church?

the Catholic Church?

It was the interview between Emperor Frederick and the Pope that brought about the end of the contest between the Vatican and the German Government, which is one of the principal achievements of the reign of Leo XIII, and for which His Holiness is in a measure indebted to his Secretary of State. The latter, ever street assumed his present office has ever since he assumed his present office, has made a special point of attaching himself to no particular party, of which there are several at the Vatican. He is above everything else the Pope's man, rather than the man of any else the Pope's man, rather than the man of any particular faction, his most remarkable quality being that of implicit obedience. And while he will occasionally, with a tact that belongs to a bygone age, bring over the Holy Father, almost without the latter's knowing it, to his own views, in the eyes of his master, as of the outer world, he appears to be obeying orders without attempting to give any color of his own to the acts of Leo XIII. Should he succeed him, as there is considerable probability of his doing he there is considerable probability of his doing, may be relied upon more than any other prince of the Church to continue that policy which has won for Leo XIII the renown of being the most won for Leo XIII the Priows of Leo.
enlightened, sagacious, liberal-minded and,
above all, successful priest who has ever occupled in modern times the chair of St. Peter.
EX-ATTACHE.

A QUEEN'S LOVE FOR MUSIC

Queen Marguerite, of Italy, is of all the Royal and Imperial ladies of Europe the one who is the most happy as when at her plano. Indeed, music is the of the great Powers of Europe make a point of choosing for their ambassadors at Rome diplomats who are more conspicuous for their musical tendence Ambassador, Baron von Keudell, used to spend the greater part of his days in playing duets with Her of the Sacred College who bear patrician names. Majesty, and his successor is that Earon von Bulow nobles predominated among these the Church, the great houses of cleverest of amateur performers on the plane. Had it not indeed been for this talent the Baron, who is still a very young man, would never have achtevel his present eminence. For while Secretary of Legtion at Dresden, he was wanting in tact to the



baseador, a lady who, devoted to music like himself. had become infatuated more by his play on the plane than by his comeliness, which was distinctly inferior to that of her husband, a man renowned for his good looks. The Baron subsequently married the lady, and, in spite of their little indiscretion, the couple represent the German Empire at Rome, the Baron having, on account of his musical proficiency, been promoted at a bound over the head of nearly two hundred of his colleagues. Queen Marguerite's devotion to Wagnerlan music, which is attributable to the fact that she received her cducation in Germany, is a source of sorrow to her husband, who, like King Leopoid of Belgium, simply abominates music, for which he has no ear whatsoever, and which has the effect of putting his teeth on edge. As he is extremely fond of his wife he submits to the infliction as long as he can. But when the strain becomes too great to hear he threatens the Queen to sing, and even goes so far as to chant a few bars in an excruentingly flat and rasping voice. That always has the desired effect, and causes Her Majesty's plane to close with a bang. had become infatuated more by his play on the

HOW SAND HILLS GROW.

From The Spectator.

A sand hill is not "made" so much as planted. Wherever a patch of "marrum grass" takes root, there the sand blown from the great bank gathers round it. As the sand spreads, the grass grows through it, until the hard dry blades form the nucleus of thousands of tons of "hills." Near Hoikham Bay there lay not forty years ago a wet "lake" Inside the high sand. There the "gunners" used to hide for curiew, digging hoies, and filling them with "marrum grass" to make them dry and comfortable. This grass took root, the sand gathered round, and where the "lake" lay is now a tumultuous mass of rounded hillocks, rising twenty feet above high-water level-built by the "marrum grass" from the surplus driftings of the mighty sand. From The Speciator.

WHY HE WAS AVOIDED.

From The Chicago Evening Post.

As the young man entered the reading-room of the club there was a sudden exodus in the direction of the billiard-room.

"Willbur seems to have become suddenly unpopular," said one of the men in the far corner, as he

ular," said one of the men ... noticed it. "Well, the boys do rather avoid him," returned the other.
"For what reason?"
"Why, his first baby has just reached the age
where it says bright things."

ENTIRELY SUPERFLUOUS.

Ches have we in the family."
Only four."
Only four, hey?" replied Mr. Kajones, "Only July four, hey?" replied Mr. Kajones, "Only July four! Do you know, my dear, there is nothing in the word cutte as useless as a fifth wheel?"

THE HUMBLE SYNAGOGUES OF THE POORER EAST SIDE.

SOME OF THEIR CONGREGATIONS INCLUDE NOT MOIS THAN A DOZEN HEADS OF FAMILIES-THE STINDY OF THE TALMUD.

Down in Hester, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk and Orchard sts., and the highways and byways leading from them, filled from sunrise until long after sunset with jostiling, pushing Semitic crowds, there is a side of life that has a strange and negular facilities. Thereby such trade and peculiar fascination. Though trade, and trade dwellers of this ghetto, one stronger impulse exists Its expression is found in the scores, and even hundreds, of tiny synagogues hidden away in this region of old buildings-synagogues consisting of a single floor, or at the most two, and giving no sign of their existence until they are stumbled upon Some of the older tenements, dark of stairway and even four of these little worshipping places within and bent, gray-bearded Jews, as rigid in their observance of the ritual as were the Jows of the Dis persion, bow to the East and their crude Arks or

with chairs for the president and vice-president for treasurer) of the congregation on either side. Directly in front of the Ark is the Memorah or Sabbath Lights, the seven-branched candlessick, which is lit each Friday night. Underneath it stand the burning candles of the jahrzeit. Above is the Perpetual Light.

Perhaps the strangest feature of all is a small sank just outside the entrance door of these synagogues. The worshipper must rinse his hands there, and wipe them on the common towel before he can enter.

"BARGAIN DAY" IN GENERAL SESSIONS.

WHAT PRISONERS GAIN BY PLEADING GUILTY INSTEAD OF INSISTING ON A TRIAL

"Bargain days" are not confined to the drygood stores, but have from time to time been held in the Court of General Sessions. They are not ad-vertised in advance, and there is no great crush of people, for the only ones who can take advantage of the opportunities offered are prisoners confined in the Tombs. It has always been the rule in General Sessions to deal gently with a man who pleads guilty. Judges will take from one year to four or five off the sentence of a felon who "saves the county the expense of a trial." to use the phrase which often falls from the bench. There are several reasons for this lealty. One is that when a guilty man insists on a trial he is about certain to commil perjury if he takes the witness stand. Even if he avails himself of his privilege of not testifying, often happens that some relative, friend



INTERIOR OF A HESTER STREET SYNA GOGUE.

It is easy for one to imagine himself in far-away | "pal" is brought forward to swear to a false alibi. Russia or some part of Poland when he stands in one of these primitive synagogues, for not a in one of these primitive synagogues, to single memory of New-York ever tauches them, and rot a word of English is ever heard within. That jargon known as Yiddish continually flows, relieved only when the Law is read in the pure Hebrey. The worshippers are almost entirely old men, the younger generation of to-day having partly, at least, broken away from many of the orthodox observances, pleading business as an ex-THREE HUNDRED SYNAGOGUES.

From one end of the Hebrew quarter to the other gogues in miniature; each serving as a place of prayer of a separate congregation. Many of them are so insignificant in the number of their worshippers that they include less than a dozen heads of



INSTRUCTION IN THE TALMUD.

event one of their number reads the ritual and expounds the Talmul, for no matter how few Jews, even of the poorest and most wretched class, are gathered together there are always some that are learned in the Hebrew Law.

The reason for these scores of synagogues in

place of a few large and important ones is to be traced in the character of the East Side Hebrews themselves. Steadily trying to lay aside every penny possible, great numbers of them find that they cannot afford to belong to the leading congregations. even in that part of the town. The privilege of worshipping in a congregation of prominence is denied to none, no matter whether he can pay his proportion or not, it is true, but vast numbers pre-fer the independence of a body of men as poor as In the great majority of these synagorues the

ritual is read three times a day, and they are never empty. Long-bearded oid men come in and sit quietly by the hour reading the Talmud or the Law, with its commentaries. This happens only in the larger of the little symagonies, however, for the liniest ones have no books nothing but the Ark and the smallest possible reading desk. A few half-burned candles on the top of this latter stand in a rouge tin tray. When the services begin, or some worshipper performs the "jahrze!t" diterally, the "year time," an annual observance of the death of a near relative, consisting of the burn-

SCHOOLS OF THE LAW AND THE TALMUD. A goodly proportion of these very small synateaching Hebrew (the Talmud, the Law and the ritual) to little Jewish boys. It is wonderful in these

teaching Hebrew (the Taimus), the Law and the ritual) to little Jewish boys. It is wonderful in these communities to see how religion and the practical affairs of life are brought in together. The chedarem are as important as the synagogues themselves, and the "melanden," or teachers, as mighty men as the rabbt, if there be one.

In fact, not a few of these synagogues are more schoolrooms, to the outward eye, than they are places of worship. The worshippers sit on moveable school benches, and the sacred scrolls when they are brought out from the Ark on the Sabbath are laid on a school table. Early in the morning the heads of families gather in this room in earnest prayer. At 3:30, or thereabouts, the boys of the congregation troop in, having finished with their public school work for the day, and the "chedar" begins; the malamed opens the books.

A clase consists, usually, of from five to twelve boys. The malamed himself is a man of education, generally young and always with a long beard. He knows all the sacred books of Judalsm by heart, the rote as well as the meaning. Start him at any point, opening any volume at random, and he can recite for hours, intoning or in his natural volce, with never an error or an instant of hesitation. He is paid by the parents of each pupil, averaging from fifteen to twenty-five cents a week.

Only boys learn in these chedarem. Girls it is not important to teach. It is quite sufficient if

hesitation. He is pair to the twenty-five cents a week.

Only boys learn in these chedarem. Girls it is not important to teach. It is quite sufficient if they know only a little, and that little is taught them privately. A chedar well under way brings up memories of the East. Boys and teacher are gathered about a rough deal table. The boys read, always aloud, one after the other, at breakneck speed. At the slightest error the watchful malamed corrects in a loud voice; without ever breaking the flow of the boy's tone. A chedar in session can be heard several floors away.

In the larger synagozue the chedarem are held in a corner of the women's gallery—a curious place in itself. Few, even of these larger synagozues, are of greater size than the parlor of one of the old-fashioned houses of New-York, except that those that have the galleries are two stories in height. The women must not be seen of men during worship, and to accomplish this fully curtains of lace a foot and a half high are hung above the gallery rail.

foot and a nail high all.

Into the benches here the women crowd on the Sabbath day. They are excused from attendance at the synagogues on week days, in consonance with an old custom, because of their household.

duties.

The reading desk stands in the centre of the synagogue. Around it are rough movable pews, uncushioned. These have curious racks for books, held up by little bands of fron, which it into crovices in the pew backs. To the east is the Ark.

The evidence in many criminal cases is so utterly contradictory that one is forced to believe that perjury is extremely common in the General Sessions courts. The Judges feel this, and when they can dispose of an indictment without having to listen to lying witnesses, they are glad to do so.

and the prisoner reases a reward.

Still another reasen for the mercy shown to those who admit their guilt is that these pleas enable the courts to dispose of many more cases than they otherwise could. If a man says "guilty," as much is accomplished as if a week were spent it his trial and conviction. Thus the number of prisoners in the Tombs is reduced. Besides, Judges and presenting attorneys have a prile in dispos-ing of a large total of cases within the term of the ourt, and this influences them to let off a poor

bargain days" occur from time to time. They are not likely to be in Part 1 of the court, where all proastons fremendous concessions are made by the Judges for pleas of guilty. A highway robber, overcrowded, these "bargain days to the contrary. Or they may get a disturce, and perhaps be set free after a time. On the name, it convicted, their sentence will be all years heavier than if they plead guilty, must chose at once. Long months of free-depend on their decision, and usually the of "bargain day" prevails, and the same room, or the next morning, they start "up the "thinking, "Well, it might have been much

Worse.

Sometimes, but not often, an innocent man will plead guilty. If he has no money to pay counsel, and has "done time" before, he may feel that there is little chance of persuading a jury that this time he is not the right man. Trial and conviction would mean a long term, and he accepts the alternative of a "bargain day" sectence. He goes "up the river" in no friendly mood toward success, and when he leaves Sing Sing Prison is likely to say to himself. "Well, if I am going to be sent up for doing nothing. I might as well get the benefit of a job or two. An ex-convict has no chance anyway."

VIEWS IN THE LONDON CLUB.

From The San Francisco Argonaut.

the Southern States. The Yankees are a very old people. I must say."
No one seemed to be able to enlighten him, and another chap, in a high collar, took up the running. "Poor devils, they've got no generals. Grawnt and Lee are too old, I expect."
One peculiarly intelligent, middle-aged, retired army colonel quietly mattered; "Grawnt is dead, you idlet."
They've got Stonewall Jackson," suggested a new sperker who had just come into the smoking-toom.

"Who's they?" quickly demanded the ex-colonel.
"Who's they?" quickly demanded the ex-colonel.
"South America," replied the newcomer.
"Why Stanewall Jackson is a Northern general," should the first young man with the eyezlass.
"No fear," from the ex-colonel, with a covert

"No fear," from the ex-colone, with a covert wink, wink.

"I'll go a fiver on it," said the young man with f the cyclass.

"Done," quietly remarked the colonel.

"But who'll decide it?" asked several voices.

"I will myself," said the colonel. "You said Stonewall Jackson is a Northern general. I say he is not, because he's dead."

"What a jolly self." "I say!" and "I never," filled in the gaps in the laughter.

"Come, hand over the fiver," demanded the ex-colonel.

"Ston a bit," spoke a voice not heard before. It

colonel. "Stop a bit," spoke a voice not heard before. It came from an old gentleman who was quietly slipping very weak grog pear the fire. "Stonewall Jackson was a South American general. If so, the bet must be off. You are both wrong."

MAPLE SYRIP FROM CORNCOBS.

From The Omaha Ree.

At different times during the past six months articles have appeared in the press commenting on the art of manufacturing maple syrup from corncobs. The fact that a first-class article can be manufactured has been thoroughly demonstrated by the recent success of a clizen of Cherokee County, who has "surprised the natives" by making a syrup from cohs that an expert cannot distinguish from the genuine article. It has the color and taste of genuine Vermont maple syrup and is, so far as can be told by taste and looks, almost an exact reproduction. The party who is engaged in the new industry is a resident of Marcus, Cherokee County, and expects, in the near future, to enter into the business on a large scale, for which purpose a stock company is already being formed. Samples of the syrup are being sent to all parts of the country for inspection, and should it give satisfaction, as it has at home, the new industry will be a paying one, as it can be made for least than half the cost of the genuine, and is an excellent substitute. People are going to Marcus every day from the surrounding country and towns to investigate the matter, and all go away satisfied. The process employed in obtaining these results is yet a mystery to the public, as only a select few have been taken into the secret after a solemn promise not to divulge any of the details.

ANOTHER OF LINCOLN'S JOKES.

From The Chicago Times-Herald.

From The Chicago Times-Herald.

This is a brand-new Lincoln story, and true, like all of this series.

President Lincoln reached Meade Station, near Petersburg, soon after a serious battle in which about 2,000 Confederates were made prisoners. General Meade was on the President's left and Colonel George D. Ruggles on his right. On their way to headquarters they rode to a point where they could see the large assemblage of prisoners. With the prisoners were many colored servants and laborers. "Mr. Lincoln." said General Meade. "I guess Ruggles did not overestimate the number of men captured."

Mr. Lincoln checked his horse, deliberately surveyed the field full of Gordon's disarmed men and the contrabands, and said: "Yes, General, the number is there in black and white."

THE OLD NEW-YORK GANGS.

ORGANIZED BANDS THAT WERE ONCE A TERROR TO THE RIVER FRONTS.

THEIR PRACTICALLY COMPLETE SUPPRESSION BY THE POLICE WITHIN TEN YEARS-THE "WHYOS" AND SOME OF THE OTHER

> FAMOUS ORGANIZATIONS OF LAWBREAKERS.

It is a noteworthy fact that gang rule in New-York is at an end and has been fairly put down. The days of the gangs that downtown, uptown, on the North and East River fronts and near them, kept the city in a state of terror are over, and at the the name from the Battery to Westchester. Little bands of misguided youths continue to skulk in unused cellars, on corners and in the shadows of lumber and stone yards, but the depredations of these are few, their cutrages insignificant, and they do little mere than worry the police off and on. They are by no means the legitimate successors of the old time gangs that flourished in the sixtles and seventies. Ten years ago saw the beginning of the last de-

termined stand of the New-York police against the power of the gangs that then dotted the town in a hundred different places. There was not nearly so much terrorism at that time as there had been ten to twelve years before that, for many of the old-time offenders had been sent to jail by the merciless tracking of the bluecoats on patrol and Central Office detectives. But there were enough gangs in 1884, at any rate, to incite a New-York rewspaper to devote nearly a page to detailed description of them, under the flaring headline "Gang Rule in New-York," and at least a dozen different bands of famous young rufflans held certain districts of New-York under their sway. Two forces brought about their eventual subjection and scattering-one, the never-ending wariness of the officers who marked every leader in their minds and kept track of him for years until they could fasten some crime definitely on him and "send him up"; the other the gradual building up of the city bringing peaceable foreigners from the south of Europe into the slums and rookeries and driving out the turbulent ones, filling meanwhile the vacant lots uptown with tall tenement blocks which offered no refuge for the law-breakers.

So gradually it came about that the backbone of the gangs was broken, leader after leader going up to Sing Sing for a term of years, and old and historic haunts being cleaned out with iron hand. There is no beat in New-York City to-day which patrolmen have to traverse in pairs. Yet twenty, thirty, and even so late as twelve or thirteen years ago, there were streets in various parts of the town in which it would have been absolutely unsafe for policeman to venture alone at any time after nightfall. For one of the most marked features of old time gang rule in New-York was that a good proportion of the tenement dwellers in the region where each gang had its "hang-out" actually sympathized with the young rufflans who were continually waging war against law and order, and would protect them every time against the police. Indeed, a blue uniform in those days in the slums was a tarcet for every sort of abuse, even from some of the district's "respectable" citizens.

IN THE GAS HOUSE REGION.

Perhaps the best instance to-day of the complete subjection of the gangs is in regard to the "Gao House Region" bounded by Twenty-seventh-st., Second-ave., Fourteenth-st. and the East River. There it is still a desolate and forbidding place after nightfall. Besides the gas works there are lumber yards, and a curving, dismal river front. Once it was a centre of lawlessness; twenty years ago one of the blackest danger spots of the city. In outward appearance it is not so very different now, but raid after raid, over a period of years, has complished its work, and at present a sober man, though he be unarmed, can walk even at the edge t the river safely at any time of the evening or night

that once made night horrible there has been sent to jail, and now in this district, as in every other quarter of the town, when one of these leaders has served ht term and come back to New-York he is watched, and at the first indication of his building up a following he is promptly and energetleally made to feel the weight of police oppres-

of gangs to-day is that the police force is much large and better organized than it was a quarter of a century ago. Beats that used to be covered by a to two and even three men. This has had its effect, and an effect that is most marked and positive.

These gangs were picturesque in nomenclature and deeds. Rough and lawless, cruel and merciless as they were, composed of young brutes who, in most which, while they caused the blood of honest citi-zens to boil over, nevertheless made these honest citizens say that the young fellows were mighty smart, and that it was a great pity that so much inventive energy could not be directed along decent lines instead of being purely criminal and destruc-

From 1865 to 1876, with the exception of the narrow strip of fine houses, handsome stores and whole-sale warehouses in the centre of Manhattan Islsale warchouses in the centre of Manhattan Island, there was hardly a district of New-York that was safe from the depredations of some one of these scores of gangs. Which one of them was the eleverest and the most remarkable it is not possible to say, for the honor is a divided one. Most famous of all, possibly, were the "Whyes" and the "Dead Rabbits," that, located in the vicinity of the historic all blue Paints can their courses of crime "Dead Rabbits," that, located in the vicinity of the historic old Five Points, ran their courses of crime without mercy and without fear. No policeman had the slightest terrors for them: it would, when they were in their prime, have taken a whole platoon of the force to cause them a tremor. They fought other rangs, coming out victorious because of their superior numerical strength and their brute force. They made it practically impossible for any one to complain against them, for the reason that any one who did would have the rest of his life made a terror for him by night and by day.

made a terror for him by night and by day.

A clever phrase-maker once spoke of the musical cry of "Why-Oh!" that the members of this great gang used to trill out on the approach of a policeman as the "light-infantry bugle-call of crime." Thrilling in the extreme was this banshee-

of a pollecman as the "light-infantry bugle-call of crime." Thrilling in the extreme was this banshee-like shriek that so frequently used to ring out at night in the old Sixth Ward of thirty years ago, it was a signal of the criminal on post warning his commades who were actually committing the crime that danger was at hand.

Now every Wnyo is in jail or dead, though there may be one or two of the minor members who have reformed, or are now dranging out wretched extended and the statement of the minor members who have reformed, or are now dranging out wretched extended to its full height afficent years ago. The headquarters of both were in old Worth-st. The sang murdered, stole, did every sort of crime, little and big, having lanumerable "fences," and inding to petity their the same their way too small for them. One of the minor picturesque crimes of the king. "Danny" Driscoll, afterward hanged for murder, was the stealing of a watch out of the pocket of a fat German asleep on his doorstep. A moment later the king had jumped on a Second-ave, horsecar and, seeizing the reins from the driver's hands and grasping the whip, drove that car down the street at a terrific pace, lashing the animals to a gallop, heedless of the conductor's bell and the cries of the frightened passengers.

heedless of the conductor's bell and the cries of the frightened passengers.

Space is lackfing to tell of the many exploits of Driscoll, Daniel Lyons, Owen Bruen, "Hoggy" Waish and Shea. The decline of the gang began when young Captain McCullagh said, on taking charge of the precinct, "Either the Whyos or I must go from this precinct." Two or three years later the Whyos went.

THE "BORDER GANG" AND THE "SHORT TAILS."

Less famous, but quite as aggressive and even more interesting, was the "Border Gang" and its successor, the "Short Tails," the latter so-called because, in the words of the neighborhood, they were "k'ds," from sixteen to eighteen years of age. The Border Gang got its name because it lay on the The Border Gang got its name because it isy on the borders of two precincts. It numbered from twenty to thirty ruffians, and its "hangout" was in the sparyard at the foot of Gouverneur Sip. Though it frequently committed depredations in the neighborhood, the specialty of this gang was the boarding of sloops passing down the East River with a little boat. Four or five men used to row out late at night and "hold up" the captains and crews, often getting good sums of money. They were a terror to the district as well. Large, stout, vigorous men of twenty-five years of age and upward, rather old for a gang of those days, they made the region so dangerous that policemen never used to think of going around singly. Captain O'Brien, the present chief of the Detective Bureau, won his first spurs in putting down the thugs of this lower East Side, and the now famous Sergeant McCauley used to be his chief side-panter. Fifteen years ago these men got the best of this oldtime gang and began to crowd it to the wall.

The Short Tails then came energetically on the field and had to be put down. They were petty thieves, but they knew how to "hold up" and garrote most scientifically. To this gang belongs the doubtful honor of having started the "can racket," of having been the first in New-York to introduce the present popular system of "rushing the growler." Their headquarters were in the stoneyard borders of two precincts. It numbered from twenty

at the foot of Corlears-st., and too snug in to move over to a neighboring saloon when

at the foot of Corlears-st., and too snug in there to move over to a neighboring saloon when the thirst came upon them, they used to send out one of their number with a large pail, which was to be filled with beer. It was seldom that the gang took the trouble to pay for this. The man who went for it would simply march out of the saloon with the filled receptacle, and if the barkeeper attempted to stop him he would make a few remarks of a maiedictory sort, interlarded with profanity and obscenity, and containing references to the complete ability of the gang to clean out the saloon that night if the "barkeep" didn't "hold his yawp." There was only one saloonkeeper in the entire locality that ever got the best of this gang. His name has not gone down to history, but the fact is not to be denied that the gang was so afraid of him that they always paid when they went to his place.

What the Short Tails stole was rope principally, and little things. They never had any trouble about getting all they wanted to eat, for the restaurant-keepers were afraid not to give it to them, and the tenement-house dwellers nearby sympathized with them, and were really rather proud of them. Another gang that was no less successful in its operations was the "Boodle Gang." of "Rotten Row," in the Eighth Ward, a great square of double tenement-houses, covering the entire block of Greenwich and Washington sts., from Spring to Canal, with its front on Greenwich-st. This conglomeration of buildings, one of the most famous rookerles in the city of twenty years ago, was the headquarters of all the theves and loafers of the Fifth and Eighth wards. It was admirably adapted for a stamping place of crime, for it abounded in alleyways, through which, thieves could double when pursued by the police, in hallways, where they could hide, and in, capital places for stolen goods to be slowed away in.

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away in.

This Boodle Gang is renowned in the annals of New-York. It was large and mighty, Its members were most expert at garroting, which they accomplished very simply. One of the gang would steal up behind a man, jerk his arm around the victim's neck, pulling his head back hard, causing his hands to fly up and leaving him a helpless mass. Then two or three others would carefully go through the victim's pockets. This could all be done in a moment, and then the man would be dropped upon the sidewalk and the criminals would hasten away into hiding.

THE "BOODLE GANG'S" METHODS.

They had several singular schemes of stealing which are worth noting. "Rotten Row" was only stone's throw away from the old Central Market, Canal-st., and wagons loaded with provisions used to pass by frequently. The gang would provide themselves with a long rope, on the end of which was a hook. The other end of this rope would be tied to a lamp-post, and then the young thieves would lounge on the sidewalk near by until a truckful of ples same along. As the waren passed slowly

provide themselves with a long rope, on the end of which was a hook. The other end of this rope would be tied to a lamp-post, and then the young thieves would lounge on the sidewalk near by until a truckful of pigs came along. As the wagon passed slowly by the hook would be thrown with unerring aim, and it would invariably imbed itself in a pig. The wagon would go on and the rope gradually tighten. A rew hundred feet away the pig would be putled off, the driver meanwhile unconscious of what was happening. Upon this the gang would run up, seize the pig hastily and carry him off into the courtyard of "Rotten Row" or into one of the celiars. Once safely there they would promptly cut the animal up, and the next day the tenement dwellers of the region would have offered to them by a number of industrious young men pigs' feet, pigs' jowls and pigs' quarters at prices far below the market rates. Yet another project of the Boodle Gang was their deft way of stealing hams off trucks. One member would approach the truck ostentatiously, and, taking care that the driver should see him, would run away with a ham. Naturally the driver would jump down and give chase to the fleeing thief. The man with the ham would run for about two blocks, and then with a whirl of his arm toss the ham into the gutter. The driver, taking possession of it in triumph, would go back to his truck, only to find that the rest of the gang had been at it and that every other ham had disappeared.

In the First ward, down in Washingtonst, and iffy strong, preying upon immigrants for the most part; the "Silver Gang," who had a "fence" near by, and committed burglary chiefly, and the "Potashes," who met under Babbitt's shed, in Washington-st, name from the word washington-st, name from the rocks at Fortieth-st, between Ninth and Tenth aves. This also, a rocky bluff that made a superth fortress for men whom the police wanted, was the location of "Little Hell," afterward known as "Hell's Klitchen." the original building of which is still standing. In Thirty-

the fleecing of passengers, the passenger station then being at Thirtieth-st.. between Ninth and Tenth aves, and the old Broadway stages (this being thirty years ago) running through Twenty-third-st. from Broadway and up Ninth-ave. to the station. The gang used to go down to see the freight cars loaded at St. John's Park, take note of the number of the cars that seemed to promise the best haul of booty, arrange to hide themselves in them in some way at Thirtieth-st., where the freight trains were made up, and throw out the goods to confederates somewhere along the line.

They operated with great success, filling in their spare time with petty thievery and robbery of every sort. "Dutch" Harmon Ladendorf was their leader, a man of immense nerve and inventiveness. These "Forty Thieves" in the lower Seventh Ward, at the foot of Pike and Market sis., in William M. Tweed's time. These fellows were junk and rope thieves chiefly, and their great sport used to be at Christmas time, when they would go into the back yards of tenements and find hanging up at the windows, outside for safekeeping in the cold air, rows of turkers. With sharp knives securely tied on long sticks the Forty Thieves would saw away at the strings that held the turkeys until the birds would drop into their hands. Many an honest laborer of thirty years ago down in this region used to wonder on Christmas morning where the "foine burd" he hung safely outside his window the afternoon before had gone.

PESTS OF THE NORTH RIVER FRONT.

PESTS OF THE NORTH RIVER FRONT. The entire North River front, from Forty-second-

st. up to about Sixty-third-st., was infested by motorious gangs, such as the "Red Star Social Club," in Forty-sixth-st., between Eleventh-ave. and the river, the members of which used to live a good part of the time in the sewers, to be out of the way of the police. The leader, "Jim" Wade,

and the river, the members of which used to live a good part of the time in the sewers, to be out of the way of the police. The leader, "Jim" Wade, who was afterward captured after years of following by Detective-Sergeant Valleiy (and it was one of the most important captures ever made in New-York), used to spring, when pursued, directly into the river from off the Forty-sixth-st, pler and swim from there into the sewer. He was a perfect duck in the water, and in that lay a good part of his power over the gang.

"Rome," in Sixtleth-st, between Eleventh and Tenth aves., and "Wrangeberry Row," in Fifty-second-st, between Eleventh-ave, and the river, were rows of tenement-houses filled with "growler workers"—both girls and men—who used to ile in wait a few blocks from the entrance of the old National Park, in Tenth-ave, between Sixty-second and Sixty-third sts, and rob respectable citizens on their return from the picnics and balls held in that resort. This was in 1856, or thereabouts, and it was then the outskirts of the city. Years came and went before the police were able to make any impression whatever on these mobs, for the rich hauls that the roughs and toughs used to get made them fearless and not at all averse to entering into a fight whenever the slightest opportunity showed itself. Then the Fifty-first-st, dock was the only pier in that part of the town north of Forty-third-st, and all the excursion-boats used to stop there. A brickyard was near by, and it was the easiest possible thing for half a dozen low-browed young criminals to drag a man in among the heaps of bricks, knock him on the head and carry away everything valuable he had about him. They used to do this even in the daytime, for they feared absolutely nothing.

A hundred more gangs of like strength might be named. There was a "Cat Alley Gang," for example, in East Sixth-st., near the river; "Paddy Masterson's Chaing Gang," at Sixteenth-st, which served as a training school for some of the civer-sts professional thieves now in the country; th

A MOUSE STORY. From The Spectator.

From The Spectator.

A lady living in my house in the country and nounced to me one day that she had tamed a family of mice, consisting of a father and mother and seven young mouse children, who had made their nest in the partially decayed sashframe of the window in her first-floor bedroom, which had an opening on to the sill outside. She further stated that she could identify each of the members of this family, and could induce them to come at her call and feed out of her hand. These statements at neared so incredible that I felt compelled to express my disbelled in them in the absence of personal proof of their veracity, and she therefore requested me to accompany her to her room, there to receive such evidence as would satisfy my doubts, I went and stood with her clore to the open window, and she called the mice by the names, "Jim," "Tom," "Jack" and so on, to which she asserted that she had accustomed them, and I saw them come, one by one, on to the window ledge, where they ate bread out of her hand, and subsequently out of my own, not timidly, but as if in full assurance of safety.

On the afternoon of the same day I had a small tennis party in the garden on to which this bedroom looked. My cousin, whose Christian name is Jim, was playing tennis, and several of the party, including myself, were sitting in the garden beneath the mouse window, when afternoon tea was brought out to us, and I called loudly "Jim." "Jim." "several times to communicate that fact to my cousin. At the third or fourth call something ran across the path, and one of the party impulsively threw his low hat at it, and killed what we found to be a mouse.

The mouse-tamer was not of the party, and knew.

threw his low hat at it, and killed what we found to be a mouse.

The mouse-tamer was not of the party, and knew nothing of the occurrence, to which indeed none of us attached more than a passing importance. The next morning, however, still in 'gnorance of the incident, she distressedly informed us that her little "Jim" had disappeared from her family, and that, although the others appeared as usual at her call, he remained absent; and I know that he asver reappeared.